

House Resolution 1230

By: Representatives Byrd of the 20th, Hill of the 21st, and Shipp of the 58th

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with the People's Republic of
2 China; congratulating the People's Republic of China on the 30th anniversary of economic
3 reform; and inviting Consul General Qiao Hong to appear before the House of
4 Representatives; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, there is a bond of friendship between the citizens of Georgia and the People's
6 Republic of China, and the people of Georgia welcome opportunities to grow our already
7 deep relationship at all levels including cultural, academic, and business; and

8 WHEREAS, China is celebrating 30 years of economic reform this year; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud that Georgia based companies such as the Coca-Cola
10 Company, United Parcel Service, Home Depot, Delta Air Lines, Inter-Continental Hotels,
11 John Portman & Associates, CNN, AJC International, Inc., GE Energy, Char-Broil,
12 Concurrent Computer Corporation, and Micrometrics have operations in China; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud that a growing number of Chinese companies such as COSCO
14 North America, Kingwasong LLC, Yat Ming USA, Inc., Ecotech Machinery, Inc., and New
15 West International, Inc. have operations in Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Economic Development will soon open an economic
17 development office in Beijing; and

18 WHEREAS, the China Governance and Development Program of the International Center
19 for Democratic Governance with the Carl Vinson Institute at the University of Georgia
20 fosters strong ties between Georgia and China by providing governmental training and
21 technical assistance to visiting delegations of Chinese officials on an annual basis; and

1 WHEREAS, Kennesaw State University is home to the China Research Center, the
2 SINO-American Education Consortium, the Center for International Programs, and the
3 Chinese Proficiency Testing Center; and

4 WHEREAS, many other Georgia colleges and universities also have ties with China, among
5 them Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia Southern University,
6 Georgia State University, and Valdosta State University; and

7 WHEREAS, approximately 1,500 Chinese students study in Georgia universities, 140
8 Chinese faculty members work in Georgia's universities, and 331 students from Georgia have
9 participated in numerous study abroad and student exchange programs with Chinese
10 universities; and

11 WHEREAS, China is a top destination for Georgia exports, totaling over \$979 million with
12 top exports including paper, food products, minerals, ore, nonmetallic mineral products,
13 forestry products, textiles, and textile mill products; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia imports over \$8.2 billion from China through the Savannah Customs
15 District with top imports including industrial and electrical machinery, furniture, toys, games,
16 iron and steel products, and plastics; and

17 WHEREAS, two-way trade to and from China flowing through Georgia's ports of Atlanta,
18 Brunswick, and Savannah total over \$12 billion, ranking Georgia as the sixth largest port
19 in the United States for imports and exports with China and the second largest port on the
20 East Coast; and

21 WHEREAS, Savannah ranks sixth among U.S. container ports in Asian imports and ranks
22 second among U.S. East Coast ports in imports from China with 65 percent of all Asian
23 based cargo transiting into the U.S. South Atlantic moving through Savannah; and

24 WHEREAS, the Georgia Ports Authority and the Shanghai International Port Group signed
25 an agreement to promote jointly all-water shipping routes and trade opportunities between
26 Shanghai and the Port of Savannah; and

27 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud to be home to the Georgia China Alliance, the Atlanta Chapter
28 of the National Association of Chinese Americans, The Chinese Business Association of

1 Atlanta, the Association of Chinese Professionals, the Hong Kong Association of Atlanta,
2 and the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce; and

3 WHEREAS, Delta Air Lines has obtained approval to operate a daily nonstop flight from
4 Atlanta to China which has an economic impact of \$400 million on the Southeastern United
5 States; and

6 WHEREAS, Atlanta and all of Georgia would be honored to be selected to serve as the home
7 of the next Consulate General of the People's Republic of China; and

8 WHEREAS, the 2008 Olympic Games which will be hosted by China create opportunities
9 for Georgia companies similar to those created when Atlanta hosted the Olympic Games in
10 1996; and

11 WHEREAS, Honorable Qiao Hong, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in
12 Houston will honor us with her presence on February 26, 2008.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
14 the members of this body hereby recognize the special friendship between Georgia and the
15 People's Republic of China, congratulate the People's Republic of China on the 30th
16 anniversary of economic reform, and encourage further commercial, cultural, and educational
17 ties between our two nations.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Consul General Qiao Hong is invited to appear before
19 this body on a date and at a time designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
21 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution Consul General Qiao Hong.